The above conditions were run at three different mixing speeds, 500, 1000, and 1500 rpm, with the ultimate goal of obtaining realistic filler retention. Typical filler retention on a fine paper machine is between 50-55% retention. Table 7 provides the mixing speed results.

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 36-55 and add Claims 58-69 as follows.

58. (New) A method of making a paper product having uniformly distributed modified starch particles therein, comprising:

(a) forming an aqueous slurry of uncooked starch particles;

(b) adding a cationic additive to said aqueous slurry of uncooked starch particles, wherein the cationic additive adheres to the starch particles, thereby forming modified starch particles having a stable positive surface charge in the range of about +1 mV to +100 mV as determined by the zeta potential measurement;

(c) adding the modified starch particles to a pulp furnish;

(d) mixing said pulp furnish to uniformly distribute said modified starch particles in said furnish;

(e) depositing said pulp furnish onto a foraminous support to provide a wet web having the modified starch particles uniformly distributed therein; and

(f) dewatering and drying the wet web to provide a paper product having the modified starch particles uniformly distributed therein.

59. (New) The method of Claim 58, wherein the cationic additive comprises a cationic polymer.

60. (New) The method of Claim 58, wherein the cationic additive comprises a polyquaternary amine.

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61. (New) The method of Claim 58, wherein the cationic additive is added in the amount of about 1 to 15 pounds per ton of starch.

62. (New) The method of Claim 58, wherein the modified starch particles are added in the amount of about 0.5 to 20 percent by weight of the pulp furnish.

63. (New) The method of Claim 58, wherein the paper product has at least about 60% retention of the modified starch particles.

64. (New) The method of Claim 58, further comprising adding an anionic retention aid to said pulp furnish.

65. (New) The method of Claim 58, further comprising adding a cationic retention aid to said pulp furnish.

66. (New) The method of Claim 64, wherein said anionic retention aid comprises an anionic polyacrylamide.

67. (New) The method of Claim 65, wherein said cationic retention aid comprises a cationic polyacrylamide.

68. (New) The method of Claim 58, wherein the paper product is selected from the group consisting of fine paper, newsprint, bleached board, liner board, medium board, and old corrugated containers.

69. (New) The product produced by the process of claim 58.

In the Abstract:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 4, as follows:

A modified polysaccharide having enhanced surface charge. The polysaccharide is modified to include a cationic polymer, preferably a polyquaternary amine, and has a surface charge from about +5 to about +20 mV. The modified polysaccharide can be advantageously incorporated into a papermaking furnish with enhanced retention.

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